

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

MISSION

The mission of the National Photographic Interpretation Center (NPIC) is to analyze imagery acquired by overhead collection systems and to report the findings to the intelligence production and foreign policy community. Imagery is one of the nation's key sources of information on subjects ranging from arms control to international crisis management. NPIC is the provider of much of the basic intelligence data on military forces and key international policy issues used to produce finished intelligence.

WORKING ENVIRONMENT

NPIC is a self-contained operation that offers a wide range of career opportunities. The largest contingent of people are imagery analysts. However, the Center also employs imagery scientists, data processing and systems specialists, engineers, photogrammetrists and operations research methodologists who plan for and develop the support structure for imagery exploitation. This includes a large-scale, state-of-the-art data processing system and other specialized systems and equipment. Highly skilled professionals in the fields of information science, graphic arts, and publication and photographic production are also an integral part of the Center's population.

NPIC is now embarked on a recruitment program to increase the staff by several hundred people by the end of the decade. While qualified people in the scientific and technical disciplines are also needed, the major emphasis is on imagery analysis. We are seeking people with a strong record of achievement who have acquired the basic skills and discipline to do research and analysis. Newly hired imagery analysts are afforded a four-month, comprehensive training program to provide them with specific imagery interpretation techniques and substantive skills. Domestic and foreign TDY's are also provided for area and subject familiarization.

NPIC offers competitive salaries, determined by education and experience, for all of its occupations. Career growth and accomplishments are readily acknowledged based on merit. Further academic study of advanced, job-related subjects may also be sponsored on a competitive basis.

CHALLENGE

NPIC is the only national center in the CIA. This presents the unique challenge of supporting not only the CIA but other intelligence organizations on a day-to-day basis. It provides the opportunity to work on highly sensitive and timely information which impacts on decisions made by U.S. policymakers. The programs and systems being developed are on the leading edge of technology, thereby offering a professionally stimulating work environment.

GENERIC LISTING OF CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

IMAGERY ANALYST: Degree Requirements: A Bachelor's degree in political science, international affairs, history or other liberal arts area is required.

Generic Description: Incumbent performs analysis and interprets imagery from various sensors and researchers collateral information. Also will conduct briefings and produce detailed reports for use by intelligence consumers. Imagery Analysts are needed to work in the Washington, D.C. area. Openings from entry to persons with prior military experience in imagery analysis. Grade range: GS-07 to GS-14.

IMAGERY SCIENTIST: Degree Requirements: A Bachelor's degree in photogrammetry, photographic science, remote sensing, mathematics, physics, computer science with physics or mathematics minor or electrical engineering is required.

Generic Description: Incumbent will perform photogrammetric analysis of complex imaging systems and develop mathematical equations to perform mensuration. Will also perform digital image enhancement and develop techniques and algorithms to maximize information extracted from imagery. Acts as COTR for developing digital image processing algorithms. Work will be performed in the Washington, D.C. area. Openings from entry level to individuals with prior experience. Grade range: GS-07 to GS-14.

COMPUTER SCIENTIST: Degree Requirements: A Bachelor's degree in a related field, e.g., engineering, mathematics, photo science, optical physical science or computer science is required.

Generic Description: Positions are available in all areas from analysis, design, programming and maintenance programming to working in a test and evaluation facility involving DEC, personal computers, soft copy displays, local area networks and experimental optical equipment. All positions are in Washington, D.C. Openings from entry level to persons with extensive experience. Grade range: GS-07 to GS-14.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT ENGINEER: Degree Requirements: A Bachelor of Science degree in engineering, mathematics, computer science, applied physics plus three to five years experience with hardware and software design and development is required.

Generic Description: Incumbent will be responsible for the engineering developments associated with defining system concepts and developing requirements, specifications and designs for a technical system consisting of a data processing system, digital communications system and a micro processor-based special imagery exploitation support system. Will provide day-to-day technical and programmatic direction for contractor teams and participate in periodic contractor program reviews. All positions are in Washington, D.C. but require extensive domestic TDY's. Grade range: GS-12 to GS-15 depending on background and experience.